

# **Local and quasi-local non-Gaussianity from inflation**

**David Wands**

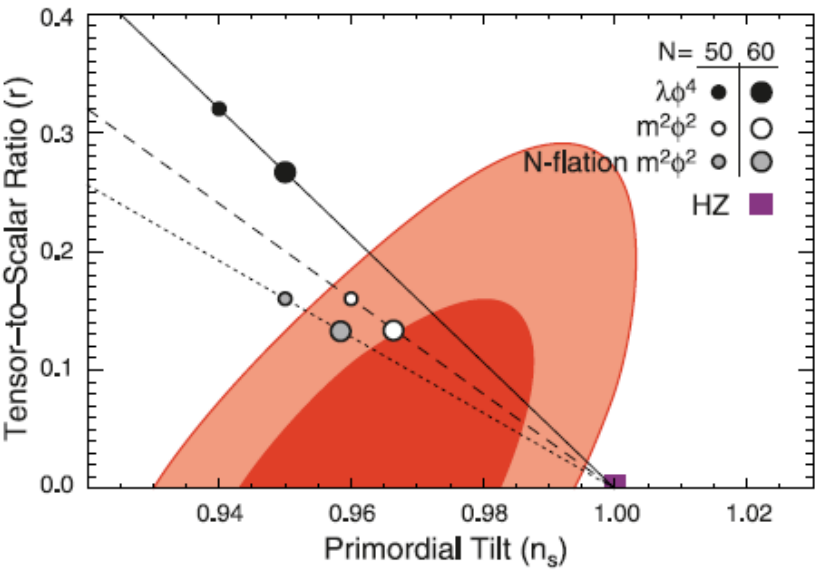
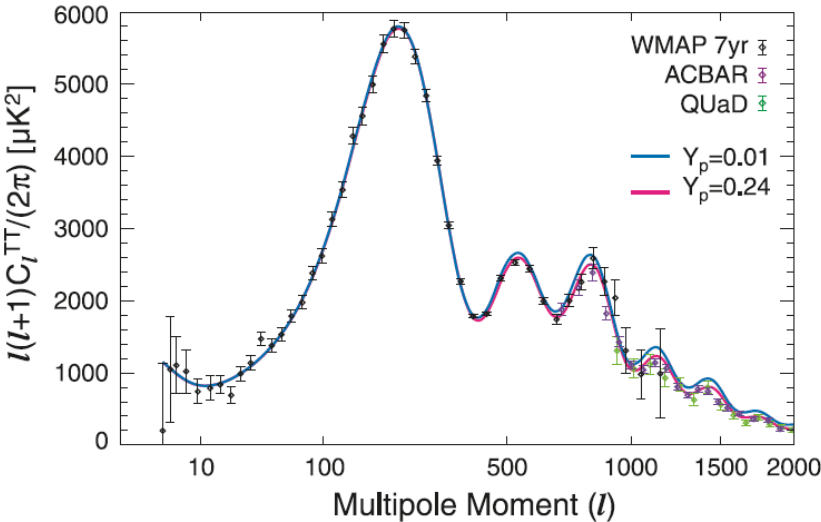
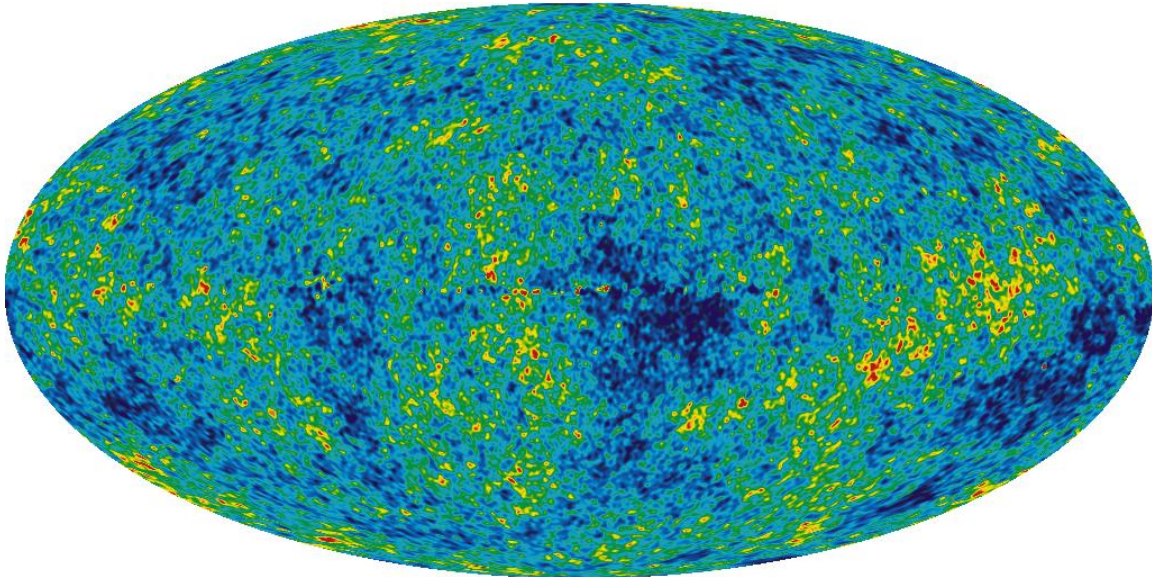
**Institute of Cosmology and Gravitation  
University of Portsmouth**

work with Chris Byrnes, Jose Fonseca, Kazuya Koyama, David  
Langlois, David Lyth, Shuntaro Mizuno, Misao Sasaki,  
Gianmassimo Tasinato, Jussi Valiviita, Filippo Vernizzi...

review: *Classical & Quantum Gravity* 27, 124002 (2010)  
arXiv:1004.0818



# pre-Planckian standard model of primordial cosmology



# Primordial Gaussianity from inflation

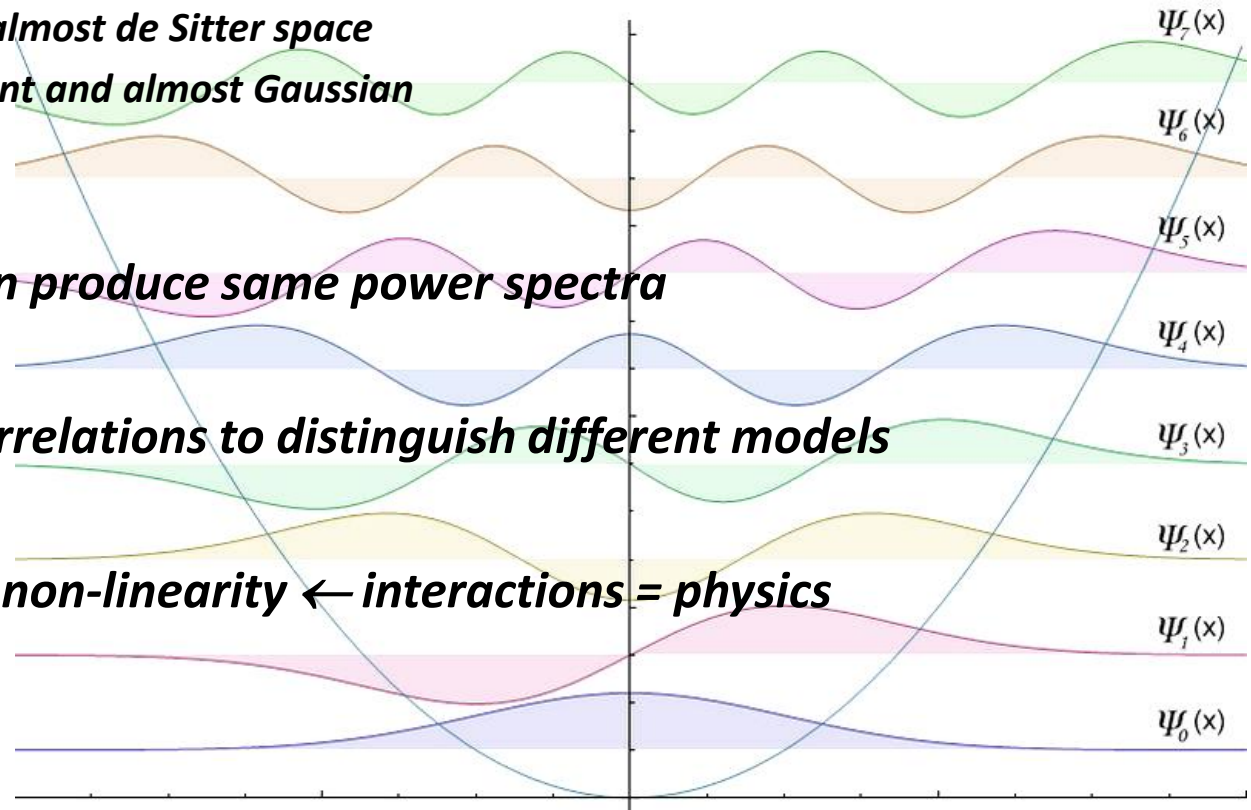
- **Quantum fluctuations from inflation**

- *ground state of simple harmonic oscillator*
- *almost free field in almost de Sitter space*
- *almost scale-invariant and almost Gaussian*

- ***Different models can produce same power spectra***

- ***Use higher-order correlations to distinguish different models***

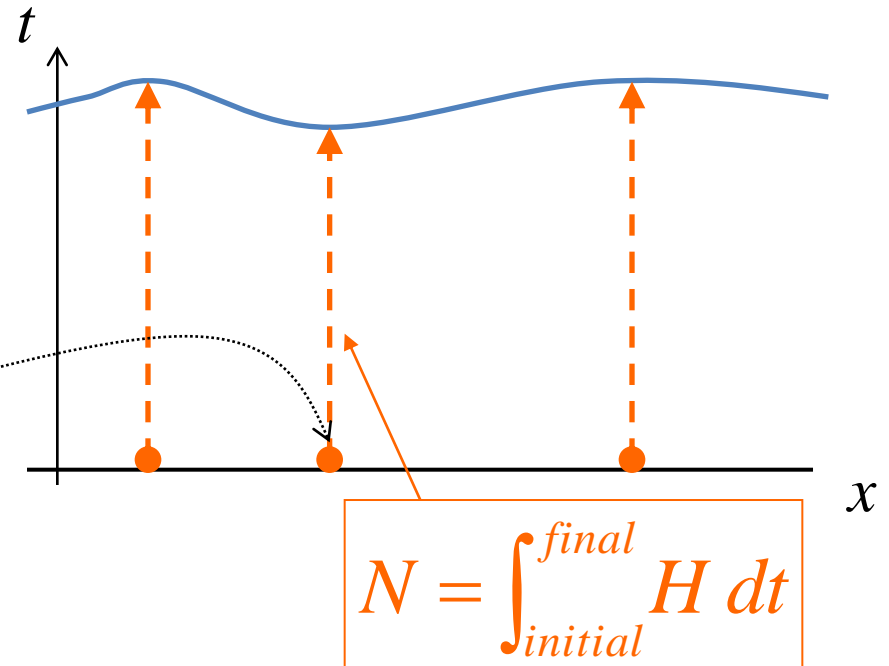
- ***Non-Gaussianity ← non-linearity ← interactions = physics***



# Primordial density perturbations quantum fluctuations

$\zeta$  = curvature perturbation on uniform-density hypersurface in radiation-dominated era

during inflation  
field perturbations  $\phi(x, t_i)$  on initial spatially-flat hypersurface



on large scales, neglect spatial gradients, solve as “separate universes”

$$\zeta = N(\phi_{initial}) - \bar{N} \approx \sum_I \frac{\partial N}{\partial \phi_I} \delta \phi_I$$

Starobinsky `85; Sasaki & Stewart `96  
Lyth & Rodriguez `05 – works to any order

# the $\delta N$ formalism order by order at Hubble exit

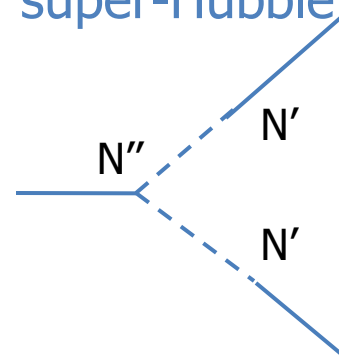
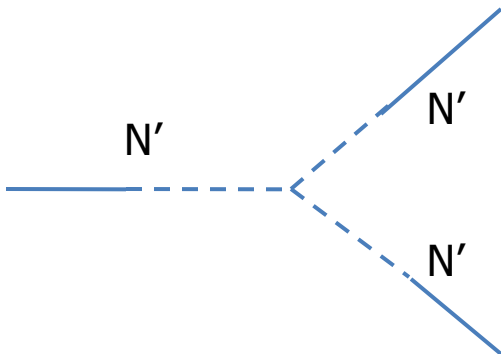
$$\delta\phi_I = \delta_1\phi_I + \frac{1}{2}\delta_2\phi_I + \dots$$

$$\zeta = \zeta_1 + \frac{1}{2}\zeta_2 + \dots$$

$$= \left[ \sum_I \frac{\partial N}{\partial \phi_I} \delta_1\phi_I \right] + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \sum_I \frac{\partial N}{\partial \phi_I} \delta_2\phi_I + \sum_{I,J} \frac{\partial^2 N}{\partial \phi_I \partial \phi_J} \delta_1\phi_I \delta_1\phi_J \right] + \dots$$

sub-Hubble quantum interactions

super-Hubble classical evolution



# simplest local form of non-Gaussianity

applies to many models inflation including curvaton, modulated reheating, etc

$\zeta = \zeta(\delta\phi)$  is local function of *single Gaussian random field*,  $\delta\phi(x)$

$$\zeta(x) = N' \delta\phi(x) + \frac{1}{2} N'' (\delta\phi(x))^2 + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \zeta(x_1) \zeta(x_2) \rangle = N'^2 \langle \delta\phi(x_1) \delta\phi(x_2) \rangle + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \zeta(x_1) \zeta(x_2) \zeta(x_3) \rangle &= \frac{1}{2} N'^2 N'' \langle \delta\phi(x_1) \delta\phi(x_2) \delta\phi^2(x_3) \rangle + \dots \\ &= \frac{3}{5} f_{NL} \langle \zeta(x_2) \zeta(x_3) \rangle \langle \zeta(x_1) \zeta(x_3) \rangle + \dots \end{aligned}$$

where

$$f_{NL} = \frac{5}{6} \frac{N''}{(N')^2}$$

- odd factors of 3/5 because (Komatsu & Spergel, 2001, used)  $\Phi_1 = (3/5) \zeta_1$

# Simplest local form of non-Gaussianity to third order

$$\zeta = \zeta_1 + \frac{3}{5} f_{NL} \zeta_1^2 + \frac{9}{25} g_{NL} \zeta_1^3 + \dots$$

⇒ bispectrum

$$B_\zeta(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3) = \frac{6}{5} f_{NL} [P_\zeta(k_1)P_\zeta(k_2) + P_\zeta(k_2)P_\zeta(k_3) + P_\zeta(k_3)P_\zeta(k_1)]$$

trispectrum

$$T_\zeta(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4) = \tau_{NL} [P_\zeta(k_{13})P_\zeta(k_3)P_\zeta(k_4) + (11 \text{ perms})] \\ + \frac{54}{25} g_{NL} [P_\zeta(k_2)P_\zeta(k_3)P_\zeta(k_4) + (3 \text{ perms})]$$

where we have two independent parameters from  $\delta N$  calculation

$$f_{NL} = \frac{5}{6} \frac{N''}{(N')^2}$$

$$g_{NL} = \frac{25}{54} \frac{N'''}{(N')^3}$$

and

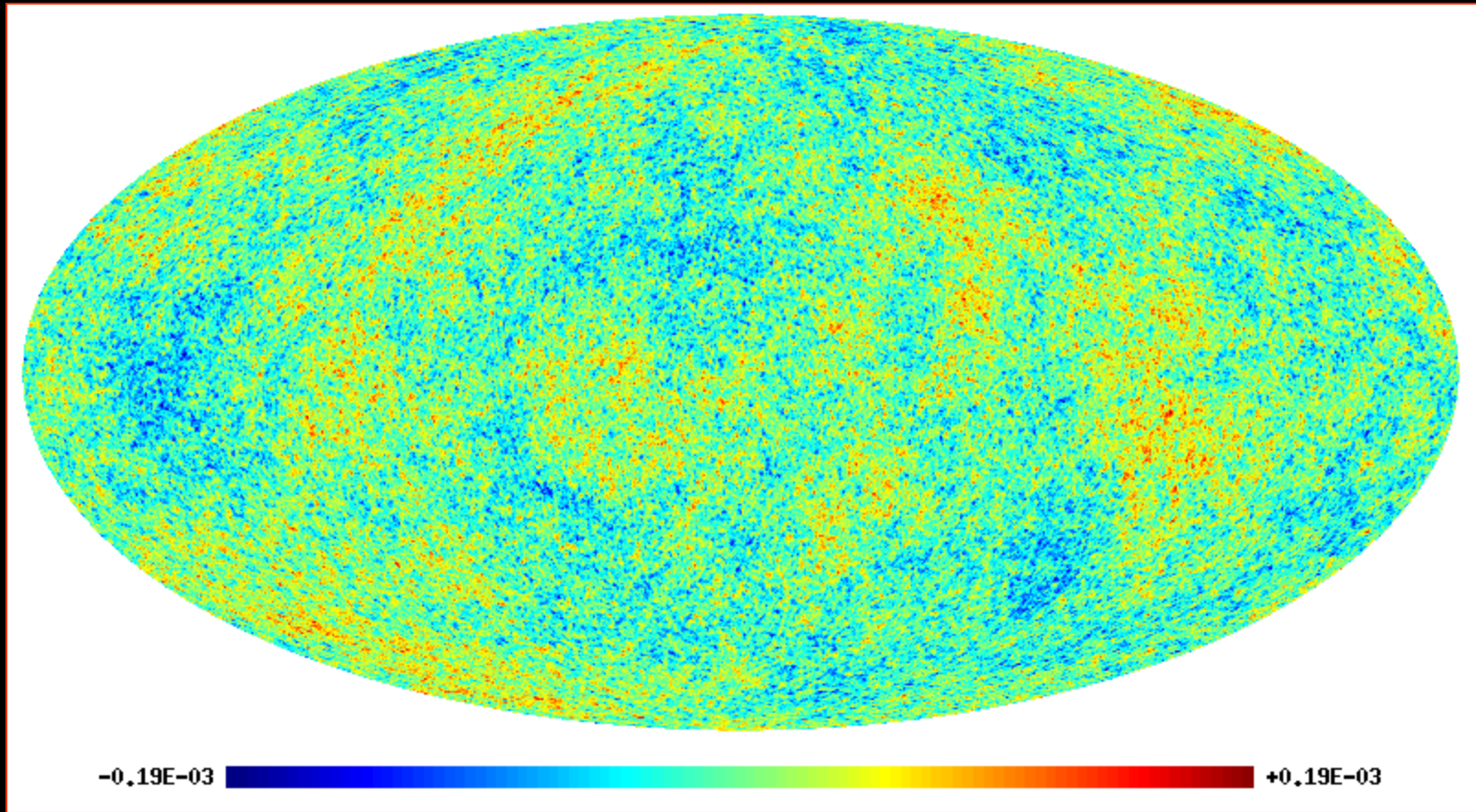
$$\tau_{NL} = \frac{(N'')^2}{(N')^4} = \frac{36}{25} f_{NL}^2$$

- note:
- both  $f_{NL}$  and  $g_{NL}$  appear at leading order in trispectrum
  - have different k-dependence  $P(k) \propto 1/k^3$



Newtonian potential a *Gaussian random field*

$$\Phi(x) = \phi_G(x)$$



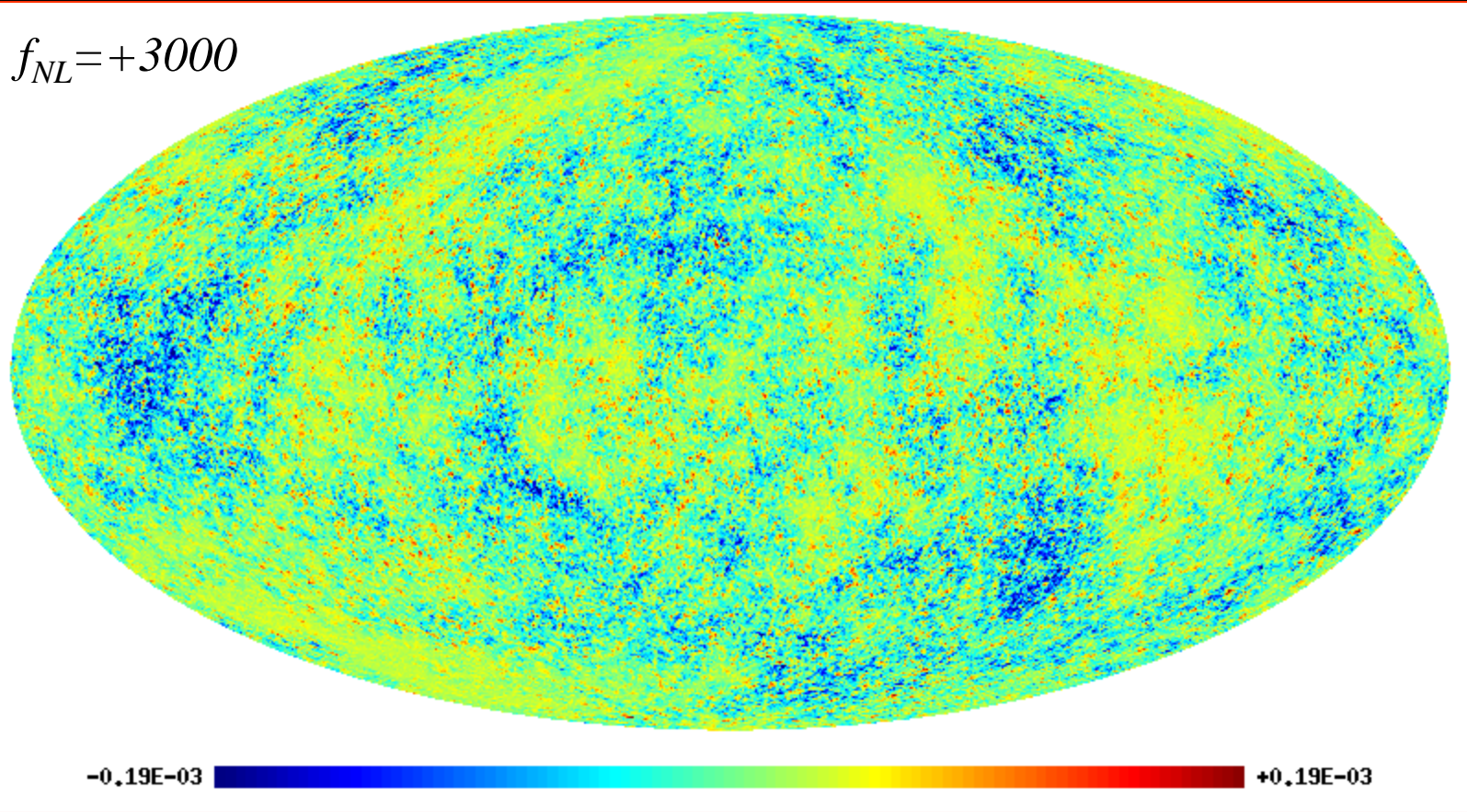
Liguori, Matarrese and Moscardini (2003)



Newtonian potential *a local function of Gaussian random field*

$$\Phi(x) = \phi_G(x) + f_{NL} ( \phi_G^2(x) - \langle \phi_G^2 \rangle )$$

$f_{NL} = +3000$



$\Delta T/T \approx -\Phi/3$ , so positive  $f_{NL} \Rightarrow$  more cold spots in CMB

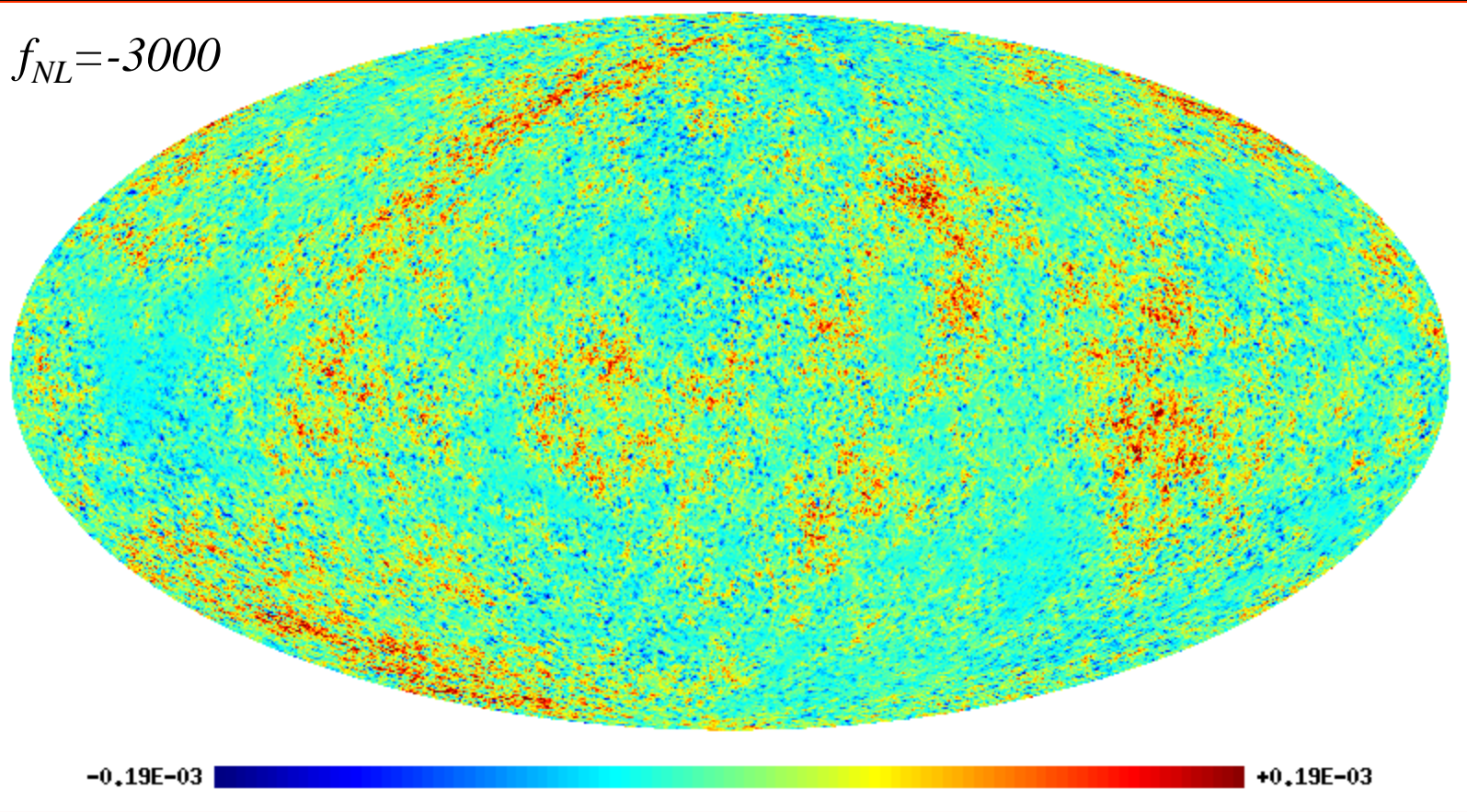
Liguori, Matarrese and Moscardini (2003)



Newtonian potential *a local function of Gaussian random field*

$$\Phi(x) = \phi_G(x) + f_{NL} ( \phi_G^2(x) - \langle \phi_G^2 \rangle )$$

$f_{NL} = -3000$



$\Delta T/T \approx -\Phi/3$ , so negative  $f_{NL} \Rightarrow$  more hot spots in CMB

Liguori, Matarrese and Moscardini (2003)

Newtonian potential a local function of ***Gaussian random field***

$$\Phi(x) = \phi_G(x) + f_{NL} ( \phi_G^2(x) - \langle \phi_G^2 \rangle )$$

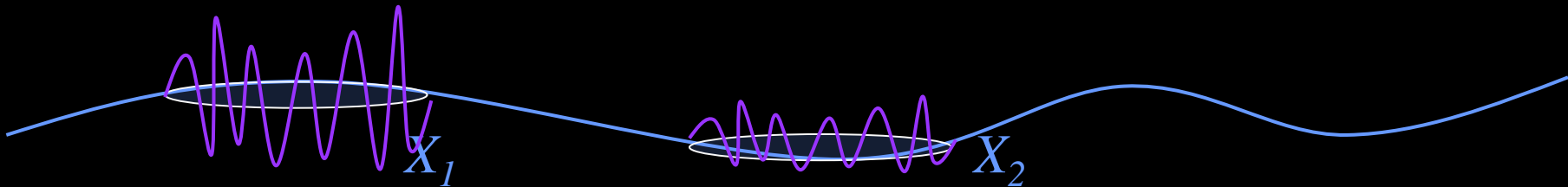
⇒ ***Large-scale modulation of small-scale power***

*split Gaussian field into long (L) and short (s) wavelengths*

$$\phi_G(X+x) = \phi_L(X) + \phi_s(x)$$

*two-point function on small scales for given  $\phi_L$*

$$\langle \Phi(x_1) \Phi(x_2) \rangle_L = (1 + 4 f_{NL} \phi_L) \langle \phi_s(x_1) \phi_s(x_2) \rangle + \dots$$

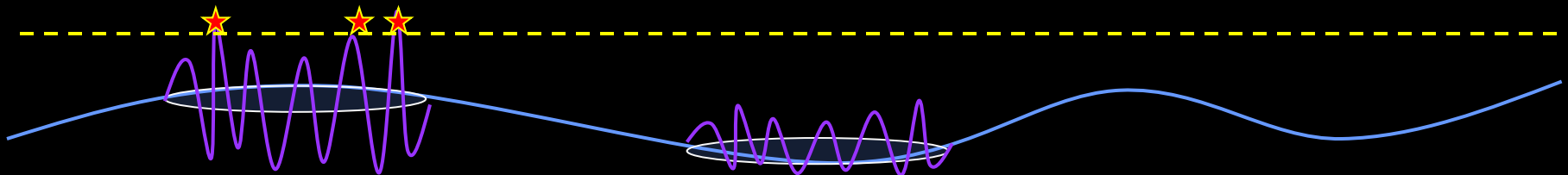


*i.e., inhomogeneous modulation of small-scale power*

$$P(k, X) \rightarrow [1 + 4 f_{NL} \phi_L(X)] P_s(k)$$

# *peak – background split for galaxy bias* BBKS'87

*Local density of galaxies determined by number of peaks in density field above threshold => leads to galaxy bias*



Poisson equation relates primordial density to Newtonian potential

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \delta\rho \Rightarrow \phi_L = (3/2) (aH / k_L)^2 \delta_L$$

so **local**  $\Phi(x) \Rightarrow$  **non-local form** for primordial density field  $\delta(x)$  from  
+ *inhomogeneous modulation of small-scale power*

$$P_\delta(k, X) = [ 1 + 4 f_{NL} \phi_L(X) ] P_{\delta_s}(k)$$

$\Rightarrow$  **strongly scale-dependent bias on large scales**

*Dalal et al, arXiv:0710.4560*



# Constraints on local non-Gaussianity

- WMAP CMB constraints using estimators based on optimal templates:
  - $-10 < f_{\text{NL}} < 74$  (95% CL) Komatsu et al WMAP7
- LSS constraints from galaxy power spectrum on large scales:
  - $-29 < f_{\text{NL}} < 70$  (95% CL) Slosar et al 2008
  - $27 < f_{\text{NL}} < 117$  (95% CL) Xia et al 2010 [NVSS survey of AGNs]

# non-Gaussianity from inflation?

- **single slow-roll inflaton field**

- adiabatic perturbations  $\Rightarrow \zeta$  constant on large scales

- during conventional slow-roll inflation  $f_{NL}^{local} \approx N''/N'^2 = O(\varepsilon) \ll 1$

- **sub-Hubble interactions**

- e.g. DBI inflation, Galileon fields...

$$f_{NL}^{equil} \approx \frac{1}{c_s^2}$$

- **super-Hubble evolution**

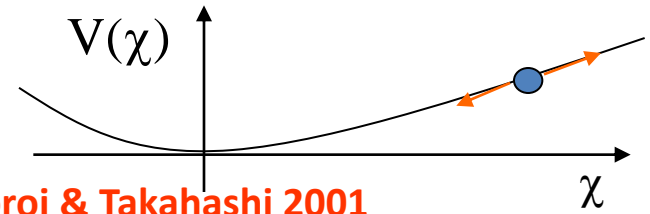
- non-adiabatic perturbations during inflation  $\Rightarrow \zeta \neq \text{constant}$

- many different models (during inflation, modulated reheating...)

- e.g., **curvaton**

# curvaton scenario:

Linde & Mukhanov 1997; Enqvist & Sloth, Lyth & Wands, Moroi & Takahashi 2001



curvaton  $\chi$  = a weakly-coupled, late-decaying scalar field

- light during inflation ( $m \ll H$ ) hence acquires an almost scale-invariant, *Gaussian distribution of field fluctuations* on large scales
- energy density for massive field,  $\rho_\chi = m^2 \chi^2 / 2$
- spectrum of initially isocurvature density perturbations

$$\zeta_\chi \approx \frac{1}{3} \frac{\delta \rho_\chi}{\rho_\chi} \approx \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{2\chi \delta\chi + \delta\chi^2}{\chi^2} \right)$$

- transferred to radiation when curvaton decays with some efficiency,  $0 < r < 1$ , where  $r \approx \Omega_{\chi, \text{decay}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta &= r \zeta_\chi \approx \frac{r}{3} \left( 2 \frac{\delta\chi}{\chi} + \frac{\delta\chi^2}{\chi^2} \right) \\ &= \zeta_G + \frac{3}{4r} \zeta_G^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad f_{NL} = \frac{5}{4r} \end{aligned}$$

# scale-dependence of $f_{NL}$ ?

Byrnes, Nurmi, Tasinato & Wands (2009); Byrnes, Gerstenlauer, Nurmi, Tasinato & Wands (2010)

➤ power spectrum  $P_\zeta(k) = [N'^2 P_{\delta\phi}]_{k=aH}$

⇒ scale-dependence  $n_\zeta - 1 \equiv \frac{d \ln P_\zeta}{d \ln k} = H^{-1} \frac{d \ln N'^2}{dt} - 2\varepsilon$

➤ bispectrum  $f_{NL}(k) = \frac{5}{6} \left[ \frac{N''}{N'^2} \right]_{k=aH}$

⇒ scale-dependence  $n_{f_{NL}} \equiv \frac{d \ln |f_{NL}|}{d \ln k} = \frac{N'}{N''} \left( \sqrt{2\varepsilon} (4\varepsilon - 3\eta) + \frac{V'''}{3H^2} \right)$

➤ e.g., curvaton

$$n_{f_{NL}} = \frac{N'}{N''} \left( \frac{V'''}{3H^2} \right)$$

scale-dependence probes self-interaction, not probed by power spectrum

could be observable for curvaton models where  $g_{NL} \sim \tau_{NL}$  (Byrnes et al 2011)



# quasi-local model for scale-dependent $f_{NL}$

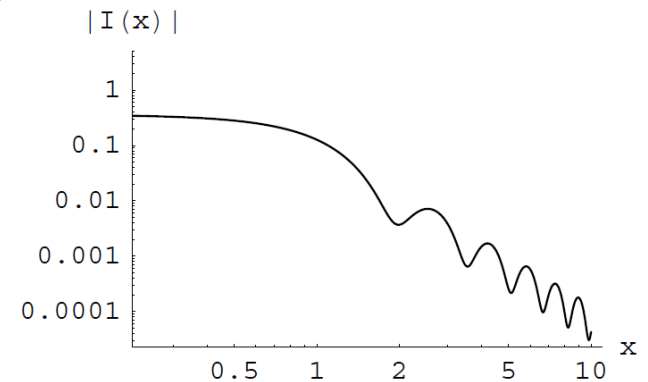
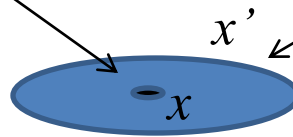
Byrnes, Gerstenlauer, Nurmi, Tasinato & Wands (2010)

➤ Fourier space:

$$f_{NL}(k) = f_{NL}(k_p) \left( 1 + n_{fNL} \ln \left( \frac{k}{k_p} \right) \right)$$

➤ quasi-local non-Gaussianity in real space:

$$\zeta(x) = \zeta_1(x) + \frac{3}{5} f_{NL} \zeta_1^2(x) + \frac{3}{5} n_{fNL} f_{NL} \int d^3x' \zeta_1^2(x') I(x-x')$$

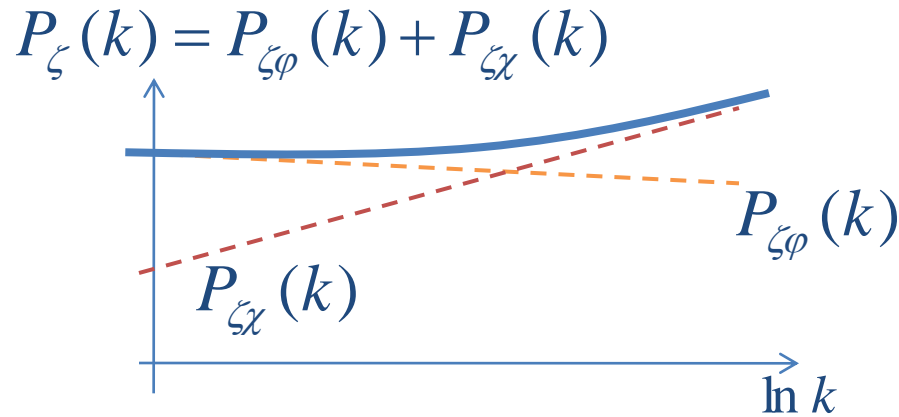


# scale-dependent $f_{NL}$ from a local two-field

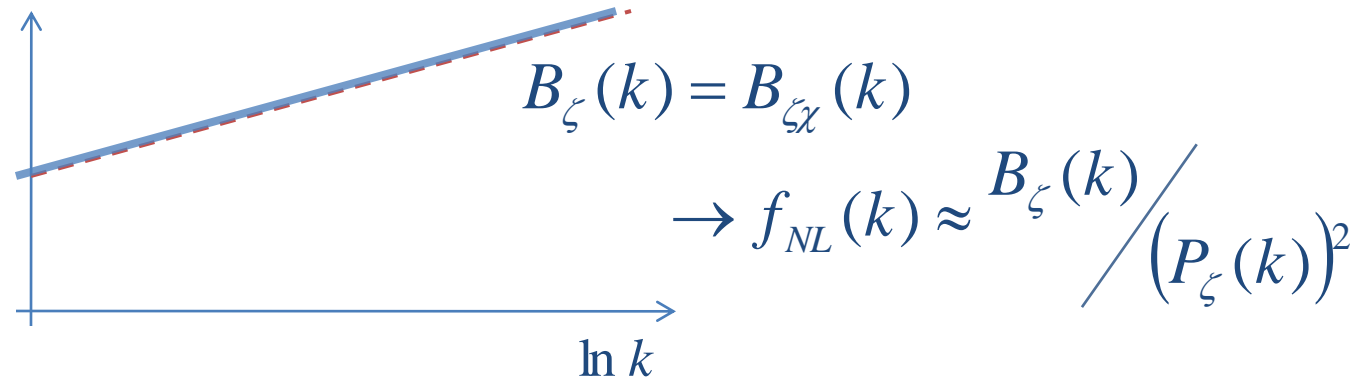
Byrnes, Nurmi, Tasinato & Wands (2009)

$$\zeta(x) = \zeta_\varphi(x) + \zeta_\chi(x) + \frac{3}{5} f_{\chi\chi} \zeta_\chi^2(x)$$

➤ power spectrum



➤ bispectrum



# local two-field scale-dependent $f_{NL}$

Byrnes, Nurmi, Tasinato & Wands (2009)

$$\zeta(x) = \zeta_\varphi(x) + \zeta_\chi(x) + \frac{3}{5} f_{\chi\chi} \zeta_\chi^2(x)$$

➤ power spectrum  $P_\zeta(k) = P_{\zeta_\varphi}(k) + P_{\zeta_\chi}(k)$

➤ bispectrum  $f_{NL} = w_\chi^2(k) f_{\chi\chi}$  where  $w_\chi(k) = \frac{P_{\zeta_\chi}(k)}{P_\zeta(k)}$

scale-dependence  $n_{f_{NL}} = 2(n_{\zeta_\chi} - n_\zeta)$

➤ e.g., inflaton + non-interacting curvaton

$$n_{f_{NL}} \equiv \frac{d \ln |f_{NL}|}{d \ln k} = 4(1 - w_\chi)(2\varepsilon + \eta_\chi - \eta_\varphi)$$

for CMB+LSS constraints on this model see Tseliakhovich, Hirata & Slosar (2010)

# outlook:

- **Great potential for discovery**
  - any nG close to current bounds would kill 95% of all known inflation models
  - requires multiple fields and/or unconventional physics
- **Scope for more theoretical ideas**
  - infinite variety of non-Gaussianity
  - new theoretical models require new optimal (and sub-optimal) estimators
- **More data coming**
  - final WMAP, Planck (end of 2012) + large-scale structure surveys
- **Non-Gaussianity will be detected**
  - non-linear physics inevitably generates non-Gaussianity
  - need to disentangle primordial and generated non-Gaussianity